

**San Juan County Public Hospital District #2  
Dba Lopez Island Hospital District (LIHD)  
Board of Commissioners - Regular Board Meeting  
February 27, 2019  
Lopez Island Fire & EMS – Meeting Room  
4:30 – 6:30 pm  
Minutes**

**Commissioners Present**

Christa Campbell  
Iris Graville, Board Secretary  
James Orcutt  
Rebecca Presley, Board Chair

**Staff**

Supt. Presson

**Commissioners Absent**

Albert Berger

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, Commissioner Presley, at 4:31 pm.

**II. Public Comment**

Commissioner Presley asked guests if anyone would like to participate in the Public Comment item. A member of the public, Tracy Cottingham, and her husband, Povl Lasbo, asked to share their personal experience with medical emergency air transport that was denied by Kaiser Permanente. They provided a thorough explanation of the steps followed throughout the medical event that resulted in an emergency air transport. Questions remained which centered around whether someone with an emergency is able to travel on the ferry, if a person can request an ambulance directly, and what medical training ferry personnel have that would ensure an individual would be properly cared for should they choose to travel by ferry.

**III. Consent Agenda**

Included in the Board packet under this item were Minutes from the January 23, 2019 Regular Board meeting and an AP Voucher report from February 21<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Campbell noted two typos in the Minutes. One was related to a reference to Mark Tompkins that was written as "Narc", and the second was a reference to "alerting the Chair" that read "altering" the Chair. **A motion was made by Commissioner Graville, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda with noted changes to the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Minutes.**

**IV. Special Report – LIHD Quality Committee**

Commissioner Orcutt, Chair of the LIHD Quality Committee, conducted a 30-minute presentation on Health Care Quality. He began by defining what is meant by the term "Health Care Quality." That was

followed by a review of actual quality outcomes for the Lopez Island Clinic, and he ended the presentation with recommendations to be shared with UWNC.

A copy of the Presentation is attached to these minutes for reference. Some key takeaways from the presentation are listed below:

- Quality is primarily measured by outcomes or clinical measures. The population that makes up the data can be based on a full panel (all potential patients on Lopez Island) or actual patient visits. It's important to keep in mind that the data from UWNC is based on the people who sought care within the clinic, meaning patient visits versus the panel approach. Patient survey return rates are usually in the 5% range.
- It's hard to evaluate trends with only 6 months of data. The Committee will continue to track outcomes and be able to see trends over a full 12 months.
- Clarity is needed if screenings and procedures conducted at other health care facilities can be put into the patient's UWNC electronic medical record. In doing so, the primary care physician will have a complete picture of the patient's healthcare needs, and UWNC's reported outcomes will be more complete.
- There were concerns around the outcome on pediatric immunizations showing 0% of goal. Follow-up is needed to determine if the Clinic has access to the state immunization registry. This would allow them to update a child's chart so anyone getting vaccinations via the Public Health Department or other provider will be captured.

Discussion continued and Peggy Means suggested there is a lot of rural healthcare research underway and the District might be able to secure data from the larger UW Medicine organization. She also felt the island is a perfect community to study and hopes that UWNC and LIHD will find a way to propose a population health study to be conducted by UW Medicine.

## **V. Committee Reports**

- a. **Finance Committee** – Superintendent Presson shared UWNC's Q'4 2018 Financial Report. She noted that the document had just been received and hadn't yet been reviewed with Commissioner Berger, Chair of the Finance Committee.

The Superintendent did note a few things upon her initial review. There was a sizable negative variance on visits through the first six months of UWNC's fiscal year. The same held true with Work RVUs, which measures provider productivity based on time and complexity of an office visit. UWNC felt the variance was largely due to Dr. Wilson having taken all of his vacation in the first half of their fiscal year. This would account for fewer visits and lower complexity, as more of the care was delivered by Wen Murphy, ARNP, and usually the Work RVUs for an ARNP are lower than for an MD.

Discussion centered around the ability of islanders to make appointments online and the suggestion that we might want to find a way to help people schedule appointments online. There was also a question as to why Dr. Alperin is in the Clinic on Tuesdays rather than another day when there is only one provider scheduled. Superintendent Presson asked Chief Havner if Dr. Alperin has been participating in run reviews with EMS, as that might be a reason for being on island Tuesdays, and he said none to date. The Board would also like to understand if the Medical Director chose that day to supervise the two providers. The Fire Chief shared a recent experience between the Clinic and EMS that worked well. There was a call during the day whereby EMS transferred the patient to the Clinic for further assessment. Following an x-ray, Dr. Wilson felt the individual could remain on island, so the patient was returned to EMS care and transported home. Overall, Chief Havner feels that communication with the Clinic during the day has improved.

**The financial report will be brought back to the March Board meeting following a more detailed review with the Finance Committee and UWNC.**

- b. **Communications Committee** – In spite of holiday travel and weather challenges, the Communications Committee reports it met its goal of publishing an issue of Health Matters 2.0 in Q'1 2019. Superintendent Presson shared a final draft of the Newsletter that will be published in the March 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Islands' Weekly. The Committee appreciates the contribution by Lopez Fire & EMS and is happy they're included as an integral partner along with CWMA and UWNC.

## **VI. Operations Report**

- a. **Monthly Financials** - Superintendent Presson presented the financial reports from San Juan County's financial management system for January 2019. There wasn't much to report other than the LIHD 2019 Budget has been committed and is showing in the first column of the Revenue Detail and Expenditure Status reports.

There was just under \$2,500 of Property Tax revenue and \$500 recorded from the Orcas Island Health Care District that came in during the month. (This is the monthly reimbursement of PEBB health insurance premiums for the shared Superintendent.) The General Fund's ending balance was \$295,541 as of January 31<sup>st</sup>. In looking at expenditures, the largest item was \$1,000 for the Association of WA Public Hospital Districts annual dues. The Superintendent reminded the Board that half of the annual dues was already offset by a \$500 deposit received last month as part of the Medicaid Transformation project underway in WA.

- b. **Clinic Update** – Superintendent Presson shared a report from Mark Bresnick, Assistant Director for Operations, UWNC North Region. Mark has been spending 1-2 days onsite in the Clinic and summarized his observations around where there are opportunities for

improvement. This was an initial report and will continue to be fine-tuned as Mark works with the Clinic Manager to assess staffing levels and workflows. Mark will be meeting with the LIHD Chair and Superintendent on a monthly basis, with their first meeting taking place on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

A copy of the UWNC Operations Report will be posted with the final Minutes.

- c. **Kaiser Air Transport Denials** – Superintendent Presson and Chief Havner continue to work closely with other County leaders to resolve the issues around air transport denials by Kaiser. They both attended the February 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Health meeting where representatives from Airlift Northwest and Island Air presented data over the past two years.

Discussion continued around possible resolution once Dr. Sullivan and the Medical Director at Kaiser meet to review the characteristics of the island and the cases in question. That meeting is scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup>; the Superintendent will continue to keep the Board apprised of developments as they become available. Chief Havner feels that Kaiser is going against a doctor's orders and the EMT standard of care isn't going to change. If Kaiser remains unwilling to accept the protocols that are in place, we may have to look for other options.

Chief Havner sent a letter to anyone who had been flown off since August 2018, letting them know LIFE is able to provide information to assist in the appeals process. The Superintendent will also post a News article on the District website with a link to the Board of Health meeting video as there was a lot of good information shared. Should the meeting with Dr. Sullivan not result in a positive resolution, the Board of Health may recommend individuals write a formal complaint to the State Insurance Commissioner.

- d. **Accountability Audit** – the 2019 audit is scheduled for the week of June 10<sup>th</sup>.
- e. **Conferences** – a discussion was held as to whether any Commissioners will be attending the June Rural Hospital Leadership Conference in Lake Chelan. Commissioner Orcutt will likely be out of the country, and the other Commissioners expressed an interest in seeing the Agenda before committing. Superintendent Presson will look into lodging and reserve a spot as long as there isn't a cancellation fee.

## VII. Old Business

- a. **Revised Public Records Policy** – Superintendent Presson reminded the Board that this is the second touch for the reworked Public Records Policy. She reiterated the process she followed to create the updated document, which entailed reviewing the feedback and suggestions the PRA Consultant provided on the formerly adopted policy. She went through each point to confirm all of the recommendations and missing elements were incorporated into the new Policy.

Other than revisiting the one question in Section 4, item 4.1 where there was a request to change "...the requestor **SHOULD** point out the public records request by labeling the front page..." with a stronger statement to read..." the requestor **MUST** point out...there weren't any other changes. **The Superintendent still needs to confirm that is an acceptable change and the document is otherwise final.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Graville, and unanimously carried to approve the Revised Public Records Policy pending the one noted change.**

- b. **NW Rural Health Conference** – the Board was aware of this conference yet wasn't able to assess the value until the sessions were posted. Superintendent Presson shared the session detail and mentioned that the Orcas PHD was also exploring the possibility of attending. They asked that she explore and attend one day, if desired. She was still in the process of deciding if it would be relevant. If she goes as a representative of Orcas PHD, she would be able to provide insights to the LIHD.

#### **VIII. New Business**

Nothing to report.

#### **IX. Commissioner Comments**

There were no additional comments.

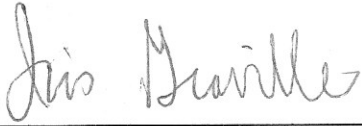
#### **X. Upcoming Meetings**

As mentioned earlier, the Chair and Superintendent will be meeting with UWNC on February 28<sup>th</sup> to review the Operations report. Superintendent Presson mentioned the BoardDocs training that is coming up in early March. She asked if the three Commissioners attending would be open to moving from the evening of March 7<sup>th</sup> to the morning of March 8<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners were agreeable to moving the training to 10 am on that Friday morning and asked that it be held in the meeting room at the Family Resource Center.

The Superintendent shared an update on the tentatively-scheduled all-islands leadership meeting. While UWNC and the officers of the Orcas Island Health Care District have an interest in making it happen, it seems reasonable to postpone this meeting until Orcas has signed a contract with UWNC. As a result, the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will take place on Orcas with the focus being on their continued contract negotiations. Finally, the next Regular meeting of the LIHD will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 PM in the same location at the LIFE Fire Hall meeting room.

#### **XI. Adjourn**

Commissioner Presley asked if there was any further business to discuss, comments or questions from the Board. Hearing none she asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion was made by Commissioner Orcutt, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Iris Graville". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Signed: Iris Graville, Board Secretary